



HEDINGHAM SCHOOL AND SIXTH FORM

ACHIEVEMENT & EXCELLENCE

Official

16 July 2025

Dear Parent/Guardian

Interest Letter - GCSE Poetry Live - Monday 19 January 2026

I would like to invite your child to take part in the GCSE Poetry Live lectures at the Regent Theatre, Ipswich. The visit will consist of spending the day hearing about the very important work created by leading UK poets that appear in our GCSE Power and Conflict Poetry Anthology. The day will include sessions by the following individuals:

- Simon Armitage (**Remains**)
- Carol Ann Duggy (**War Photographer**)
- John Agard (**Checking Out Me History**)
- Imtiaz Dharker (**Tissue**)

There will also be a further session covering top tips for examination success by an experienced English examiner relevant to the GCSE examinations.

You can use the following link to find out a bit more about the speakers for the day:

[Ipswich: 19.1.26 - Poetry Live!](#)

There will be a series of sessions in which the poets will respond to student questions and discuss how poems connect to and influence other poems. In the examiner sessions, the highly experienced Chief Examiners will deal with two skills vital for success in the GCSE English Literature examinations. The first session will look at how students might deal with unseen poems in the exam; both how to think about them and how to write for the best possible results. The second session will look at comparing poems, whether they are studied poems or unseen, and how to write most effectively in either situation.

We will travel by coach and students will need to be at school at 8.40am. We expect to return by 4.30pm. Students will need a packed lunch. We will remain seated in the theatre all day and students are not able to leave the building to purchase lunch.

The cost of the visit is £45.00 per student and includes all travel. If your child would like to take part in this visit, please complete the electronic interest form below (there are limited places) by the end of **Friday 12 September 2025**.

Interest Link: <https://forms.office.com/e/bfvxblTEW1>

Places will be allocated randomly, and you will be notified by a 'success letter' with medical form to complete after 12 September. Payment will be available from on iPay from Monday 15 September 2025 and is due by **Friday 3 October 2025**.

In some circumstances, the school can use some of its Pupil Premium funding to support eligible families. If you feel this may apply to you, please contact the school to speak with myself or our Finance Officer, Miss Clark.

Yours sincerely

Mrs G Paulyn
Trip Lead and Teacher of English

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